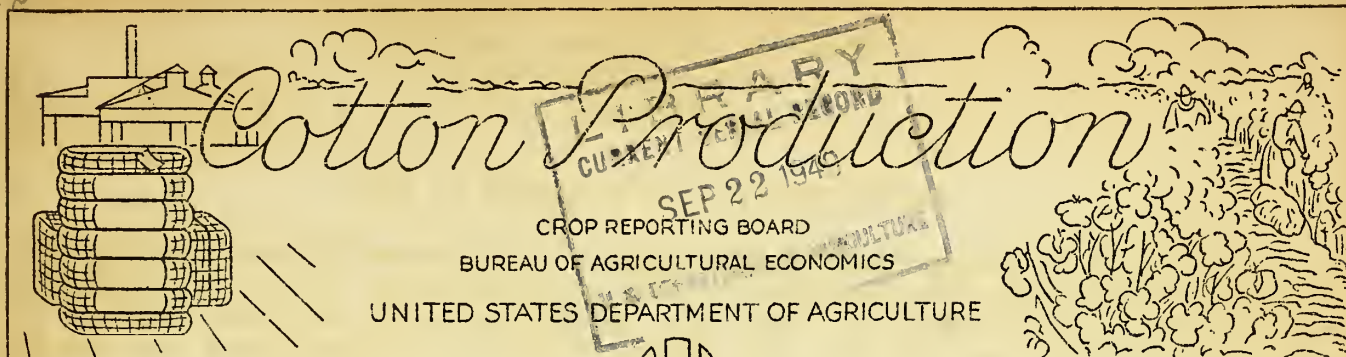


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Release: September 8, 1949

11:00 A.M. (E.D.T.)

SEPTEMBER 1949

A cotton crop of 14,943,000 bales is forecast by the Crop Reporting Board of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. The indicated 1949 crop for the United States, based on information as of September 1, is 138,000 bales, or 0.9 percent, more than the August 1 forecast and 75,000 bales more than last year's production. An increase in prospective production of 550,000 bales in Texas and 30,000 bales in Georgia more than offset declines in the Carolinas and Central Belt States. Production in 1948 was 14,868,000 bales and the 10-year average 11,306,000 bales.

Abandonment of cotton in cultivation on July 1, now indicated at 1.8 percent, is slightly below average. Such an abandonment would leave 25,907,000 acres for harvest compared with 22,768,000 acres in 1948 and the 10-year average of 21,396,000 acres. Prospective abandonment is unusually small this year in Texas but it is considerably above average in the Central Belt. Lint yield per acre, computed at 276.9 pounds, is 36.2 pounds below last year's record yield but 22.9 pounds above the 10-year average.

As compared with a month ago, indicated production is up 30,000 bales in Georgia and 550,000 bales in Texas. Decreases in prospective production by States compared with a month ago are as follows: Virginia, 2,000 bales; North Carolina, 30,000 bales; South Carolina, 125,000 bales; Tennessee, 25,000; Alabama, 60,000; Mississippi, 150,000; and Arkansas, 50,000 bales. In all other States prospects remain the same as forecast on August 1.

In the Carolinas, humid-showery weather continued during most of August, increasing boll weevil damage and causing considerable rotting of bolls particularly in Coastal Plain counties. Deterioration during August was especially heavy in South Carolina. In Georgia, hot-dry weather in late July and well into August was favorable for maturing early cotton and applying boll weevil poison. With frequent showers and generally cloudy weather prevailing in Alabama, Mississippi, and Arkansas during August, weevil damage was stepped up and cotton prospects declined during the month. Throughout the central and eastern part of the Belt, there are fields which are late because of unfavorable conditions at planting time. In these fields, weevil damage is especially heavy.

In Texas, rainfall was normal over the late-maturing west and northwest areas with warm weather prevailing. Cotton in those areas developed rapidly and heavy fruiting continued. Below-normal rainfall over the eastern half of the State hastened maturity of bolls and tended to hold insect infestation in check. Progress of the crop continued generally satisfactory in the three far-western cotton States.

The Bureau of the Census reports 1,247,443 bales ginned from the crop of 1949 prior to September 1, compared with 1,444,355 bales for 1948 and 686,109 bales for 1947.

No estimate of cottonseed production will be made until final ginnings for the season are released. However, if the ratio of lint to cottonseed is the same as the average for the past five years, production would be 6,027,000 tons, compared with 5,941,000 tons in 1948 and the 10-year average of 4,631,000 tons.

CROP REPORTING BOARD.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
CROP REPORTING BOARD
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Release:
September 8, 1949
11:00 A.M. (E.D.T.)

COTTON REPORT AS OF SEPTEMBER 1, 1949

The Crop Reporting Board of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics makes the following report from data furnished by crop correspondents, field statisticians, and cooperating State agencies. The final outturn of cotton compared with this forecast will depend upon whether the various influences affecting the crop during the remainder of the season are more or less favorable than usual.

STATE	1949		SEPT. 1		LINT YIELD PER			PRODUCTION (GINNINGS) ^{2/}			
	ACREAGE 1/		CONDITION		HARVESTED ACRE			500-lb. gross wt. bales			
	Total	For	Aver-		Aver-		Indi-	Aver-		1949	
	aban-	har-	age	1948:1949	age	1948:	cated	age	1948	Crop	
	dorment:	vest	1938-		1938-		1949	1938-		Indicated	
	after		1947		1947			1947		Sept. 1	
	July 1	Thous.						Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	
	Pct.	acres	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	bales	bales	bales
Missouri.....	2.5	536	77	90	86	451	460	425	356	506	475
Virginia.....	--	32	--	--	--	348	447	345	22	24	23
N. Carolina....	0.9	813	76	89	67	355	447	319	549	678	540
S. Carolina....	0.6	1,203	70	85	57	309	372	239	716	871	600
Georgia.....	1.0	1,455	68	80	59	235	279	198	779	745	600
Florida.....	--	44	--	--	--	164	289	196	14	15	18
Tennessee....	2.0	804	76	83	76	368	417	373	523	670	625
Alabama.....	1.4	1,755	71	84	59	262	353	246	901	1,197	900
Mississippi...	4.0	2,726	69	89	57	318	441	255	1,588	2,353	1,450
Arkansas.....	3.1	2,384	72	89	68	334	428	322	1,329	1,982	1,600
Louisiana....	3.0	1,038	64	79	66	261	382	289	528	756	625
Oklahoma.....	3.5	1,158	65	74	75	163	175	170	521	374	410
Texas.....	1.0	10,296	69	70	88	170	176	233	2,722	3,150	5,000
New Mexico....	3.5	312	87	94	89	497	542	477	119	236	310
Arizona.....	0.5	375	87	94	97	423	558	576	174	328	450
California....	0.6	957	93	87	93	602	576	652	447	968	1,300
Other States ^{3/}	--	19	--	--	--	413	432	422	16	15	17
UNITED STATES	1.8	25,907	71	82	74	254.0	313.1	276.9	11,306	14,868	14,943
Amer. Egypt. ^{4/}	--	5.8	--	--	--	279	434	378	29.5	3.6	4.6

1/ Preliminary.

2/ Allowances made for interstate movement of seed cotton for ginning.

3/ Illinois, Kansas, and Kentucky for all years and Nevada for 1948 and 1949.

4/ Included in State and United States totals. Grown principally in Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas.

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